

IN THE CLAIMS:

This listing of claims will replace all prior versions, and listings, of claims in the application:

STATUS OF THE CLAIMS:

Kindly cancel claim 5, 9, 48, and 52 and amend claims 2, 8, 10, 15, 16, 45, 51, 53, 55, 57, and 59.

1. cancelled
2. (herein twice amended) An isolated polypeptide which has at least one bioactivity of an ACE-2 polypeptide comprising an amino acid sequence having an amino acid identity of at least ~~about~~ 90% with the entire amino acid sequence set forth in SEQ ID NO: 2, wherein at least one of His374, His 378, and His417 are any amino acid other than histidine.
3. (previously presented) The isolated polypeptide of claim 2, which is a mammalian polypeptide.
4. (previously presented) The isolated polypeptide of claim 3, wherein the polypeptide is a human polypeptide.
5. (herein cancelled)
6. (amended) The isolated polypeptide of claim 4, which is encoded by a nucleic acid having the nucleotide sequence set forth in SEQ ID NO: 1, with a mutation resulting in a variant where at least one of His374, His 378, and His417 are any amino acid other than histidine.
7. (amended) The isolated polypeptide of claim 6, which has the amino acid sequence set forth in SEQ ID NO: 2 with a mutation resulting in a variant where at least one of His374, His 378, and His417 are any amino acid other than histidine.
8. (herein twice amended) An isolated polypeptide which has at least one bioactivity of an ACE-2 polypeptide comprising an amino acid sequence which is at least ~~about~~ 90% identical to at least ~~about~~ 15 consecutive amino acid residues of SEQ ID NO: 2 wherein at least one of His374, His 378, and His417 are any amino acid other than histidine.
9. (herein cancelled)
10. (herein amended) The isolated polypeptide of claim ~~9~~8, which binds an ACE-2 target peptide.
11. (previously presented) The isolated polypeptide of claim 10, which binds angiotensin I.

12. (amended) The isolated polypeptide of claim 11, which lacks the ability to hydrolyze\_angiotensin I into angiotensin (1-9).
13. (previously presented) The isolated polypeptide of claim 10, which binds kinetensin.
14. (amended) The isolated polypeptide of claim 13, which lacks the ability to hydrolyze\_kinetensin into kinetensin (1-8).
15. (herein amended) The isolated polypeptide of claim 8, which is encoded by a nucleic acid which hybridizes to a nucleic acid having the nucleotide sequence set forth in SEQ ID NO: 1 or a complement thereof.
16. (herein twice amended) An isolated polypeptide which has at least one bioactivity of an ACE-2 polypeptide comprising an amino acid sequence which is at least ~~about~~ 90% similar to at least ~~about~~ 50 consecutive amino acid residues of SEQ ID NO: 2 and which has a bioactivity of an ACE-2 polypeptide, wherein at least one of His374, His 378, and His417 are any amino acid other than histidine.
- 17-43 cancelled.
44. (withdrawn) An antibody which binds the polypeptide of claim 8.
45. (herein amended) An isolated polypeptide which has at least one bioactivity of an ACE-2 polypeptide comprising an amino acid sequence having an amino acid identity of at least ~~about~~ 90% with the entire amino acid sequence set forth in SEQ ID NO: 2, wherein at least one of Glu 375, Glu 402, and Glu 406, are any amino acid other than glutamic acid.
46. (previously presented) The isolated polypeptide of claim 44, which is a mammalian polypeptide.
47. (previously presented) The isolated polypeptide of claim 45, wherein the polypeptide is a human polypeptide.
48. (herein cancelled)
49. (previously presented) The isolated polypeptide of claim 47, which is encoded by a nucleic acid having the nucleotide sequence set forth in SEQ ID NO: 1, with a mutation resulting in a variant where at least one of Glu 375, Glu 402, and Glu 406, are any amino acid other than glutamic acid.
50. (previously presented) The isolated polypeptide of claim 47, which has the amino acid sequence set forth in SEQ ID NO: 2 with a mutation resulting in a variant where at least one of Glu 375, Glu 402, and Glu 406, are any amino acid other than glutamic acid.

51. (herein amended) An isolated polypeptide comprising which has at least one bioactivity of an ACE-2 polypeptide an amino acid sequence which is at least ~~about~~ 90% identical to at least ~~about~~ 15 consecutive amino acid residues of SEQ ID NO: 2 wherein at least one of Glu 375, Glu 402, and Glu 406, are any amino acid other than glutamic acid.
52. (herein cancelled)
53. (herein amended) The isolated polypeptide of claim ~~51~~52, which binds an ACE-2 target peptide.
54. (previously presented) The isolated polypeptide of claim 53, which binds angiotensin I.
55. (herein amended) The isolated polypeptide of claim ~~51~~52, which lacks the ability to hydrolyze angiotensin I into angiotensin (1-9).
56. (previously presented) The isolated polypeptide of claim 53, which binds kinetensin.
57. (herein amended) The isolated polypeptide of claim ~~51~~52, which lacks the ability to hydrolyze kinetensin into kinetensin (1-8).
58. (previously presented) The isolated polypeptide of claim 51, which is encoded by a nucleic acid which hybridizes to a nucleic acid having the nucleotide sequence set forth in SEQ ID NO: 1 or complement thereof.
59. (herein amended) An isolated polypeptide comprising an amino acid sequence which is at least ~~about~~ 90% similar to at least ~~about~~ 50 consecutive amino acid residues of SEQ ID NO: 2 and which has a bioactivity of an ACE-2 polypeptide, wherein at least one of Glu 375, Glu 402, and Glu 406, are any amino acid other than glutamic acid.
- 60 (withdrawn) An antibody which binds the polypeptide of claim 51.